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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Michael HAUL

Group Art Unit: 1723

Appln. No. : 10/658,200

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : September 10, 2003

For : DEVICE AND PROCESS FOR CONVEYING ROD-SHAPED FILTER ELEMENTS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, Applicant hereby wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention the following documents for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicant submits herewith a copy (in German) of a European Search Report conducted in European Application No. EP 03 01 8555.7, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited the following documents:

(1) US 6,415,474. This document is cited as an "A" category document (i.e., technical background). Col. 4, paragraph 1 and figure 1 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the European Application;

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(2) US 6,371,125. This document is cited as an "A" category document. Col. 4, lines 19-35 and figure 1 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the European Application;

(3) US 5,651,643. This document is cited as an "A" category document. Figures 1-4 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the European Application;

(4) US 4,372,710. This document is cited as an "A" category document. Figures 1 and 2 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the European Application;

(5) US 4,368,742. This document is cited as an "A" category document. Figure 3 is indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claims 1-19 of the European Application; and

(6) US 2002/0088479 is listed in the annex as a family member document of US 6,415,474.

Copies of the above-listed documents are not included herein as these documents were cited in the IDS filed September 10, 2003. However, a copy of the European Search Report is enclosed. Accordingly, the Examiner is invited to review the cited documents in light of this search report.

Applicant notes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three

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months of the filing date of the instant application. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(1).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael HAUL

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February 26, 2004
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